

REMARKS

Claims 4, 6, 12 and 14 remain pending in the present application. Claims 1-3, 5, 7-11, 13 and 15-17 have been cancelled. Claims 4, 6, 12 and 14 have been amended. Basis for the amendments can be found throughout the specification, claims and drawings as originally filed.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-11, 13 and 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Newton (U.S. Pat. No. 3,701,264) in view of Sugawara, et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,858,340). Claims 1-3, 5, 7-11, 13 and 15-17 have been cancelled. Claims 4 and 6 have been amended to depend from Claim 12 which is believed to be allowable as detailed below. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Claims 12 and 14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 12 depended from Claim 11 which depended from Claim 1. Claim 12 has been amended to independent form to include the limitations of Claims 1 and 11 and is thus believed to be allowable. Claims 4 and 6 have been amended to depend from Claim 12.

Claim 14 depended from Claim 13 which depended from Claim 7. Claim 14 has been amended to independent form to include the limitations of Claims 7 and 13 and is thus believed to be allowable.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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